

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 (Original): An isolated polynucleotide which encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

2 (Canceled)

3 (Original): An isolated polynucleotide which comprises SEQ ID NO: 1.

4 (Previously Presented): An isolated polynucleotide which is complementary to the polynucleotide of Claim 3.

5-17 (Canceled)

18 (Original): A vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 1.

19 (Original): A vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 3.

20-23 (Canceled)

24 (Original): A host cell comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 1.

25 (Original): A host cell comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 3.

26-29 (Canceled)

30 (Original): The host cell of Claim 24, which is a *Coryneform* bacterium.

31 (Original): The host cell of Claim 25, which is a *Coryneform* bacterium.

32-35 (Canceled)

36 (Currently Amended): The host cell of Claim 24, wherein said host cell is selected from the group consisting of ~~Coryneform~~ Corynebacterium glutamicum, *Corynebacterium acetoglutamicum*, *Corynebacterium acetoacidophilum*, *Corynebacterium thermoaminogenes*, *Corynebacterium melassecola*, *Brevibacterium flavum*, *Brevibacterium lactofermentum*, and *Brevibacterium divaricatum*.

37 (Canceled)

38 (Currently Amended): The host cell of Claim 25, wherein said host cell is selected from the group consisting of ~~Coryneform~~ Corynebacterium glutamicum, *Corynebacterium acetoglutamicum*, *Corynebacterium acetoacidophilum*, *Corynebacterium thermoaminogenes*, *Corynebacterium melassecola*, *Brevibacterium flavum*, *Brevibacterium lactofermentum*, and *Brevibacterium divaricatum*.

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39-82 (Canceled)

83 (Original): A method for making a β -subunit of RNA polymerase B, comprising:
culturing the host cell of Claim 24 for a time and under conditions suitable for
expression of the β -subunit of RNA polymerase B, and
collecting the β -subunit of RNA polymerase B.

84 (Original): A method for making a β -subunit of RNA polymerase B, comprising:
culturing the host cell of Claim 25 for a time and under conditions suitable for
expression of the β -subunit of RNA polymerase B, and
collecting the β -subunit of RNA polymerase B.

85-94 (Canceled)